

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 19, 2005 has been received and carefully considered. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action.

To simplify issues and permit an early allowance of the present application, claim 4 has been canceled, thus rendering moot the only remaining rejections in the Office Action. Claims 1 to 3 have already been indicated to be allowable over the prior art of record.

The applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application with respect to the subject matter recited in canceled claim 4.

Notice Concerning Information Disclosure Statements

In the current Office Action, the Examiner returned the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), which was submitted by the applicant on January 15, 2002, with the references thereon crossed out. The Examiner stated that this IDS was a duplicate of the IDS earlier submitted on November 15, 2001.

Actually, however, the IDS submitted on January 15, 2002 was intended as a corrective document, to correct an error in the date of one of the references included in the IDS earlier submitted on November 15, 2001.

Specifically, the proper date for the Japanese reference document JP 2000-179503 should be June 27, 2000 (not June 27, 2001). Although it is acceptable for the latter IDS of January 15, 2002 to be regarded as a duplicate and the references crossed

out thereon, the Examiner is requested to verify and ensure that the reference date is corrected on the earlier submitted IDS, so that the proper date for this reference will appear on the issued patent document when published. The Examiner's cooperation in this matter is respectfully requested.

Having satisfactorily resolved all pending issues in the present application, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention is not anticipated and would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the present invention was made. Accordingly, the allowance of pending claims 1 to 3 is respectfully requested.

No fees are currently due. Notwithstanding, any fees, or deficiencies in fees that may be deemed necessary in connection with this or any accompanying communication may be charged to the Attorney's Deposit Account No. 07-2519.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul A. Guss
Reg. No. 33,099
Attorney for Applicants

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775 S. 23rd St. #2
Arlington, VA 22202
Tel. 703-486-2710